

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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1. On 11 March 1953, the Soviet Control Commission ordered the organization of an "Executive Council of the Central Committee of the SED". The purpose given was for the "strengthening and concentration of the party work of the SED".
2. The members of the Council will be four in number. Their adviser will be Alexei I. Krostyev, a Russian Communist Party official.
3. It was also ordered by the Soviet Control Commission that authority over the State Security Service (SSD), hitherto in the hands of Walter Ulbricht, general secretary of the Central Committee, should be transferred to the new organ.
4. The authority of the new Executive Council will comprise the right of giving orders to the state organs of East Germany; the right of suspending laws, orders, and regulations of administrative organs of East Germany; giving basic orders for party and state plans; acceptance and expulsion of members of the Central Committee of the SED; reduction of the SED to an "elite cadre"; and taking experienced functionaries of the bourgeois parties into the SED.

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